

Dimensions of the type (measured in skin):—

Head and body 177 millin.; tail 142; hind foot (wet) (s. u.) 35; ear (wet) 20.

Skull: upper length from back of interparietal 42; zygomatic breadth 22; nasals 16.5×4.3 ; interorbital breadth 6.5; interparietal 5×10.5 ; palate length from hensenion 20; diastema 11.4; length of palatine foramina 8.5; length of bulla 11; upper molar series 6.8.

Hab. Lake Mweru.

Type. Male. B.M. no. 2. 1. 6. 16. Presented by Commissioner Alfred Sharpe, C.B.

This gerbille was at first taken for a *Gerbilliscus*, but further study convinces me that, like the *T. valida* of Angola, it is a *Tutera* with the incisive grooves shallower than in the ordinary forms. From that species, of which the British Museum contains a co-type, it is distinguishable by its still less developed, indeed almost indistinguishable, incisive grooves and the slaty bases to its belly-hairs.

From *Gerbilliscus fraterculus*, which is entirely without incisive grooves, and is perhaps a similarly retrogressively specialized *Tutera*, *T. liodon* differs by its much larger size as well as by the structure of its incisors.

LXVIII.—On the Species of *Mydaus* found in Borneo and the Natuna Islands. By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

BESIDES the original *Mydaus javanensis*, Desm.* (*M. meliceps*, F. Cuv.†, auct.), of Java, from which the Sumatran form cannot be distinguished, and the Palawan *M. Marchei*, Huet (*M. Schadenbergi*, Jent.), I find that there are two definable forms of the genus, occurring respectively in Borneo and the Natuna Islands. The former is very distinct from all, while the latter, curiously enough, is most closely allied to *M. javanensis*.

Mydaus lucifer, sp. n.

Size large, the typical female skull decidedly larger than any other female *Mydaus* skull in the Museum collection.

Fur thick and coarse, uniformly directed backwards throughout; not reversed forward on the nape as in *M. javanensis*. Light marking very broad and conspicuous on the

* *Mephitis javanensis*, Desm. Mamm. i. p. 187 (1820).

† H. N. Mamm. (fol.) ii. pl. clix. (1821).

head and nape, narrowing or disappearing on the middle of the back, becoming distinct again on the lumbar region, where it passes without interruption on to the tail. Rest of animal uniformly dark, without lighter intermixture on face, chest, or feet. Tail short and stumpy, but its hairs extremely long and forming a conspicuous brush, of which the hairs are about 2 inches in length. In colour it is wholly light, without basal dark ring, except inconspicuously below.

Skull smoothly rounded, little ridged; brain-case large and swollen; muzzle short and conical; supraorbital projections little prominent; zygomatic not widely expanded; posterior nares broad, their upper edge without median spine.

Approximate dimensions of the type (in skin):—

Head and body 340 millim.; tail 35, with hairs 90; hind foot (s. u.) 55.

Skull: greatest length 89; basal length (basion to gnathion) 75; zygomatic breadth 41; mastoid breadth 40; interorbital breadth 21; breadth across supraorbital projections 25; intertemporal breadth 24; breadth of brain-case 36.5; palate length from gnathion 44.5; breadth across posterior nares on the outer side of the pterygoids 14.6. Greatest diameter of upper molar 7.1.

Hab. North Borneo. Type from the mainland near Labuan; a second specimen (in spirit) from Papar (*Everett*).

Type. Female. B.M. no. 76. 9. 20. 10. Collected in 1876 by Mr. (now Sir) Hugh Low.

The roundness of the skull is generally a youthful character, but the type seems fully adult, its sphenoid suture being quite and its basilar partly closed. In any case, the large size, conspicuously tufted tail, and the backwardly directed nape-hairs distinguish this form from any of its allies.

Mydaus ollula, sp. n.

Size as in *M. javanensis* or rather smaller. Fur straight and coarse; hairs of nape, from middle of neck to crown, reversed forwards as in *M. javanensis* and sloping to a central point in the middle of the crown. White marking well defined, fairly broad on the nape, narrowing on the back to a width of about half an inch, or, more rarely, altogether interrupted; posteriorly not passing on to the tail, but broken by a black space at the base of that organ. Sides of face, throat, chest, and upperside of feet more or less varied with greyish white. Tail much longer than in *M. javanensis*, its terminal tuft little over an inch in length; its basal half black, its terminal white.

Skull conspicuously ridged and angular, even more so than in *M. javanensis*, and quite the opposite to the smooth rounded skull of *M. lucifer*. Muzzle narrow and pinched in above. Zygomata not widely expanded, the breadth across them not or scarcely greater than the mastoid breadth. Supraorbital projections well marked, as are the swollen prominences at the anterior corners of the brain-case behind the temporal fossæ. Opening of posterior nares narrow, without distinct median spine.

Dimensions of the type (measured in skin) :—

Head and body 375 millim.; tail 47, with terminal hairs 77; hind foot (s. u.) 52. The hind foot in two males measures 54 and 58 millim.

Skull: greatest length 82; basal length 70; zygomatic breadth 37; mastoid breadth 37·3; interorbital breadth 19·2; breadth across supraorbital projections 22·3; intertemporal breadth 20; breadth of brain-case 31; palate length 43·3; greatest diameter of upper molar 7·2.

Two male skulls measure 90·3 and 88·5 in greatest length, with zygomatic breadth of 42 and 41·3 respectively.

Hab. Great Natuna Island. Type from Sinubing; another specimen from Mount Ranai, 1000 feet.

Type. Old female. B.M. no. 95. 11. 8. 10. Collected July 1894 by Ernest Hose.

This species is no doubt closely allied to *M. javanensis*, but differs by its more markedly ridged skull, less expanded zygomata, greater tendency to whiteness on the face and under surface, and longer tail.

LXIX.—*On a new Marmot from North Siberia.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS, F.R.S.

THE British Museum owes to the generosity of Mr. Talbot Clifton the skin and skull of a marmot obtained by him in the mountains east of Lena, in North-eastern Siberia. This specimen I cannot identify with any known species, and would therefore propose to call it

Arctomys Cliftoni, sp. n.

Size small, smallest of the Siberian species. Fur thick and woolly. General colour very much as in *A. camtschaticus*,